

membered that no other country has a Niagara. If the Falls of Schaffhausen are higher, and some other cataract remarkable for one or another cause, the whole world else shows nothing so grand as such a river making such a leap. It is a "study" for the Christian, as well as for the poet or painter. But enough, perhaps, too much of this desultory "writing up" of Niagara. It must be seen.

WASHINGTON CITY.

[From our Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, DEC. 8, 1840.

Dear Sir,—When I found the fine autumn weather continuing up to the very day of my departure from New York for the South, I felt quite sure that for the present at least I had escaped the rigors of winter. At Philadelphia, too, the next morning, the same prospect continued. But before reaching Baltimore, Boreas undertook to lay his rough hand upon us; and though he only reached us with the tips of his fingers, and retarded our arrival here by a few hours' time, yet now we were under his grasp. A little thought of finding snow drifts and a New England temperature in the District of Columbia. The snow is 12 or 15 inches deep on a level, and gives little token of leaving us. And were I not pleasantly domesticated with a New England family, who know how to be comfortable and choose to be so, in cold weather, I fear I should be both chilled and discontented during my week in Washington. The rail roads have all been blocked up, the mails stopped, and passengers detained all night without light, or food or drink, in cold cars. All this, however, is something rare. So heavy a fall of snow has not been known here for 10 years, and so long a one, never. Few of the churches were opened on the Sabbath. I enjoyed the pleasure of a private service in the parlor of Gov. P. formerly of Maine. In the best weather, the churches here are but thinly attended; and their style of architecture, together with the embarrassed condition of most of the religious societies, surprised me. The four Presbyterian churches here would not, together, make one, equal in number and strength to those in our eastern cities. One is literally struggling for existence;—another depends on foreign aid in the erection of a new house of worship;—another supports its minister only so far as a government clerkship fails to maintain him, while only one,—the first church,—can be considered strong.—There are, however, many warm-hearted friends of the Redeemer here, and many gentlemen, not church members, who respect, and help in sustaining religious institutions.

The city itself is a struggling, ill-built cluster of shops and houses; the most ordinary looking place of its size, I am certain, in the United States, aside from the public buildings. These are noble, and worthy of a great and prosperous nation. The new painting, by Chapman, just placed in one of the vacant panels of the Rotunda, has great merit. Its defects are principally those of the subject, which is not great and historical enough for the place the painting occupies.

Through the kindness of one of the members, I enjoyed the somewhat rare treat of a sleigh-ride, as well as an introduction to most of the public places and many public men; among the latter, the President, whom we found alone, and conversed with for some time. He seems to have philosophy and self-possession enough to prevent any exhibition at least, perhaps any feeling of chagrin, at his present position.—After all this sight-seeing, I had still my highest gratification reserved for the evening, when I spent half an hour with Ex-President Adams. He seemed in good health and spirits, and gave us incidentally some glimpses of the vast store of historical and political knowledge in which he doubtless exceeds all other men in America. He made the first and only motion in the House to-day, respecting the rescinding of one of the Rules of the House.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, DEC. 11, 1840.

Mr. Willis.—Having reached this city of our great national council, bearing the name of the father of our young country, I propose to spend a few weeks in studying the national character, and observing the operations of the complicated machinery of this democratic, representative, federal, republican government. I use all these epithets because they are all applicable to our peculiar institutions; and because it is only by the use of them all in connection, that we can effectually guard against the abuse, which party spirit has made of them, when taken separately and applied to party purposes. The time of my continuance here is somewhat uncertain. But while I do remain, I will endeavor, agreeably to your request, to give you the results of my observations and reflections on men and things.

The circumstances attending the meeting of Congress, and the cause of the failure to form a *Quorum* on the first day of the session, you have already learned. The President's Message too will have reached you before you receive this letter. It is already before the public, and subject to the perusal of every man, who can read, throughout this reading country. Already, indeed, it is passing the ordeal of newspaper critics, and eliciting the comments of political speculators. Your readers, therefore, do not need epistolary commentaries. Nor does it belong to me, as a mere looker on, to hazard any remarks which might draw me into the political arena and place me on party ground, or involve the Recorder in political discussion and unsolicited controversy. I may, hereafter, however, have occasion to refer to some of the positions taken, and some of the doctrines laid down in this public document. At present, I leave it, with the single remark, that it is a labored attempt to vindicate the course pursued, and justify the measures adopted by the present and last administrations. With what success this attempt is made, it does not become me to decide. Your readers will decide for themselves; and will, doubtless, decide differently, according to their political relations and prejudices. Some will say, that it is a triumphant vindication; and others will pronounce it a complete failure; and will add, that the country has so decided in anticipation.—Further your dependent, on this subject, said not.

Nothing of importance has yet been done or proposed in Congress; and yesterday both Houses adjourned over to Monday next. This will afford opportunity for the absent members to get in, who have been detained on the road by the long storm, and unusually deep snow. It will also allow time to the presiding officers to appoint the standing committees of the session.

I have only time to add, that since the adjournment of Congress in July, the Representatives' Hall has been adorned with a splendid chandelier; which is in perfect keeping with the architecture, and other ornaments of that spacious and magnificent room. I should add, that the public have been already apprised of the fact, that a new painting, executed by Chapman, has been placed in the Rotunda; corresponding in size and form with the four historical paintings by Trumbull.

When I have heard what others, especially those accounted men of taste, say of the execution, then, and not till then, shall I hazard an opinion; till then I shall only dare to say, that it is quite an imposing and attractive ornament. Yours, &c. J. W. C.

MISCELLANEOUS RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The receipts of the Gospel Propagation Society, up to the end of June, amount to \$24,277. A grant of \$5,000 has been made towards the endowment of additional colonial bishoprics, and an annual increase of \$1,500 for the missionary operations in the south of India.—Two proclamations issued by Lieut. Gov. Hobson, on the 21st of May, 1840, declare every part of the islands of New Zealand to be British territory, and under the full sovereignty of her Majesty Queen Victoria, her heirs and successors.—Hundreds of the Bechuana of South Africa, of whom it was said in their former condition, that they had not one ray of light to give them any idea of a future state of being, are now yielding obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ, living epistles, known and read of all the heathen around. So great is the change which has taken place, that those who still stand aloof, look on with amazement, to see the robber become honest, to see the unclean become chaste, to see individuals, who were once a terror to all around them, shedding tears of contrition and sorrow over the sins that they have committed.—The colored population of Jamaica seem to be exceedingly desirous of instruction. They also contribute largely to sustain the gospel among themselves. One of the church missionary congregations raises between \$200 and \$270 per quarter.—Rev. Dr. Duff and Mrs. Duff, church of Scotland missionaries, arrived at Calcutta on the 3d of May, having visited Bombay and Madras.—Rev. Alexander Fyvie, of Surat, departed for his eternal rest on the 10th of June, honored by his Divine Master as an instrument of most extensive usefulness, and whose course of labor uniformly exhibited the most zealous attachment to the cause of Christ among the heathen. For some time, his mind appeared to be particularly spiritual, and death and eternity seemed to pervade his prayers and his thoughts.—A society was formed last year in London, called "The British India Society," chiefly among members of the Society of Friends, whose object is to obtain from every available source authentic and impartial information respecting the present actual condition of the natives of India, and the circumstances of that country, and to give the widest possible circulation to the information so obtained. A deep interest has been awakened, which has led to the formation of a number of auxiliary associations.—From the depot of the British and Foreign Bible Society at Paris, there have been issued during the year, 137,097 copies of the Scriptures, being 15,685 more than in the preceding year. Mr. De Pressense, in the eleven years of his agency, has been permitted to bring into circulation 666,051 copies. A large part of the work of distribution has been carried on by means of colporteurs, 72 having been more or less employed during the past year. Messrs. Courtois, of Toulouse, have received a further supply of 1,000 Testaments. The work is thus introduced into the very heart of the Roman Catholic population. The fact is unquestionable, that Dr. Sacy's Bibles and Testaments are more and more sought after, and purchased by those for whom they were particularly intended. The Evangelical Society of Geneva have employed 50 colporteurs, and issued 2,072 Bibles and 3,456 Testaments. The labors of Mr. Tiedy and of his industrious colporteurs in Belgium have been continued. The issues of the year amount to 18,366 copies; 10,000 French Testaments have been printed in Brussels. The Netherlands Society has distributed 16,759 Bibles and Testaments. The translation of the Old Testament, in the Javanese dialect, is proceeding under the auspices of the Society. Dr. Pinkerton has been able unremittently to pursue his labors during the past year in Germany and Prussia. His issues have amounted to 7,092 more copies than in the preceding year. He has distributed Bibles in the German, Polish, Bohemian, Hungarian, Italian, Wendish, Servian, Lithuanian and Hebrew languages. Dr. Pinkerton remarks, that there are many proofs, that a decided progress is making, from year to year, in different parts of Protestant Germany, in favor of gospel principles. The reformation from heathenism and various forms of infidelity will assuredly go forward, until the truth gains a complete ascendancy. The churches and schools are gradually receiving accessions of young men of better principles, and the people are becoming again acquainted with the truths of the gospel.

THE AMERICAN ELECTIC.

The first number of this new work, conducted by Dr. Peters and Mr. Treat, has made its appearance in good time. The second No. will be published on the first of March. Six Nos. will be issued in a year, one in two months, making two volumes annually of about 600 pages each. Good type is employed, and the pages are large. The first article is an introductory one by the senior editor, illustrating the object and plan of the work, and the obligations and facilities of American literature. The views expressed are liberal and just. The body of the article contains a well-reasoned argument, showing that the unobstructed introduction into this country of foreign literature is for the advantage of our own native stock. Free trade, or a liberal policy, on this subject, is the most profitable for all parties. Article second, also from Dr. Peters, is a compilation of valuable notices, relating to periodical literature in Great Britain, prior to 1800. The sources of information are Mr. Cross's Introduction to his selections from the Edinburgh Review, the American Encyclopedia, D'Israeli's works, an article in the church of England Review, Nichols's Literary Anecdotes, etc. Article third, from the British and Foreign Review, on *Charismata*, in England, its Causes and Remedy. It is full of startling facts. The writer contends that there is no national church in England; there is an established church, but not a national one; a large proportion of the population have withdrawn from communion with her, and endless are the schisms, jealousies, and rival animosities that divide those who nominally prefer her faith. And hence the religious wants of Englishmen, are neglected to a degree which is a dishonor to the Christian name. Tens of thousands are living in England in what is no exaggeration to call pure heathenism. Article fourth is a curious morsel from Swedish literature, by George P. Marsh, Esq., of Burlington, Vt. It contains a clear and satisfactory account of the Swede, Olof Rudbeck the Elder, and his *Atlantica*. The *Atlantica* is one of the most celebrated works which ever issued from the Scandinavian press. It aims at nothing less than to show, that Sweden is the Atlantis of Plato. A luxurious fancy, boundless learning, a spirit of profound research, and an ardent patriotism, united themselves in Rudbeck, to the production of a work of great literary interest. The fifth article is a translation by the junior editor, of an article from a French periodical,

on the moral condition of North America. It was originally occasioned by a work of Dr. Julius of Hamburg, a gentleman who visited the United States a few years ago, in order to inquire particularly into our system of prison discipline. Some illustrative notes are added by the translator, which are judicious, and aim to the point. The article itself is of considerable value, as showing the opinions of an enlightened foreigner, upon our social and religious systems. Art. sixth contains some translations from Icelandic literature from Mr. Elihu Burritt of Worcester. They are not of great intrinsic value, but they are curious specimens of the literary efforts of the hardy race who first discovered the shores of our continent. Article seventh is on the commercial relations of Great Britain, China, and the opium question. It is an intelligent and able discussion of the subject, though, we think, hardly impartial. It is written by an Englishman, and almost of course, it must have prepossessions and prejudices. In our humble view, the proceedings of Admiral Eliott, and of the British government, are incapable of vindication. They are characterized by flagrant injustice, and so they are viewed now, and will be forever, by all impartial individuals and nations. It requires special pleading, on the part of those periodical writers, who are concerned to uphold the present government of Great Britain, to cover up the manifold wrong-motives and wrong-doings, leading to and consequent upon, the attack on China. We are not to look tamely upon a national outrage, upon a violation of the law of nature, because the result may possibly be the breaking down of a wall of prejudice, and the introduction of the gospel into a great empire. It would be breaking one law in order to effect the introduction of another; or, rather it would be trampling on the principles of natural religion in order to set forth the claims of revealed religion; forcing in opium and Bibles in the same ship, one for the benefit of the British commerce, and the other for the salvation of the souls of the Chinese.

Article eighth is a short review of Guizot's edition of Washington's writings, extracted from the English Monthly Review. Article ninth is from the London Quarterly Review, and article tenth from the Edinburgh; the former on the Russian expeditions to the Polar Regions, and the latter on *Fellowes's* Excursion in Asia Minor. The three concluding articles, eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth, are miscellaneous, referring to recent discoveries in the arts and sciences; bibliographical notices and a select list of new publications.

On the whole, we are much pleased with this specimen number. Good judgment has been manifested in the selection of topics, and industry and care are exhibited in the introductory and illustrative notes. One great advantage it possesses over most of our secular periodicals. It does not throw down with one hand what it builds up with another. It excludes every thing of an immoral or even of a doubtful character. It has no fellowship with the theatre, or with the miserable trash which composes most of our modern novels. We hope and trust that the Electric will work its way to an extended usefulness, and to an ample patronage. It will do honor to American as well as to foreign literature. It will furnish a large amount of valuable reading for all persons of cultivated minds. If the promise of the prospectus is at all fulfilled,—if the literature of the world,—we shall regard it as a new development of the power of the press, a new reason for gratitude to God for this wonderful invention.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE PROTESTANT ANNUAL, 1841. Edited by Charlotte Elizabeth. pp. 307. London: Francis Bazar. Boston: William D. Ticknor.

The title of this elegant volume sufficiently indicates its design—to instruct and edify the friends of original Protestantism. How far that design is likely to be accomplished, our readers will judge when we name among the contributors, the Rev. E. Bickersteth, Rev. John Cumming, Rev. Dr. Chalmers, Rev. H. B. Macartney, Macleod Wyley, Esq., Rev. H. McNeile, Rev. J. Hartley, Rev. Dr. Muir, Robert Montgomery, and the fair Editor. These are not the only contributors, but they are the largest. And it is not too much to say that the writing is fine, the subjects important and treated in a masterly manner, and the whole execution of the work is marked with beauty and elegance. Ten pictorial illustrations are introduced, done in the best style of the English artists. It will be difficult, we apprehend, to find another volume of the kind equally rich in evangelical truth, and of superior finish in every department of labor bestowed upon it. And it will form a "token of friendship," adapted to the season, of unsurpassed value of its kind, and of unrivaled beauty.

A MANUAL ON CHRISTIAN BAPTISM; or, the nature, subjects and mode of this Divine ordinance, pointed out and defended, by Rev. Anthony Abroad. Philadelphia, 1840. Boston: Saxton & Peck, 133 1-2 Washington street. pp. 226, 12mo.

"The object of this work, is not controversy, but instruction." It brings together the principal arguments and facts belonging to the subject, in a condensed form and easy style, with a view to form a "pocket companion" for those who have but little leisure to pursue larger works. From several circumstances we infer that the author belongs to the Methodist communion; but he discourses a catholic spirit, and a large acquaintance with the subject he discusses. So far as we can judge from a cursory examination, the volume is well adapted to enlighten the public mind, and to do good, by promoting harmony of views on the important matter in debate between different Christian denominations. While it is to be regretted that points, comparatively so unimportant should be allowed to retard the church of God, and alienate its different branches from each other, it seems that it cannot be avoided, in the present state of imperfection and sin. And every work like this, professing a design to disperse darkness and subdue prejudice, and extend a knowledge of the will of God, deserves the approbation and patronage of the members of all communions.

THE PRACTICAL SPELLING BOOK, WITH READING LESSONS. By T. H. Gallaudet, and Horace Hooker. Hartford: Belknap & Hamersley. 1840. Boston: Crocker & Brewster. pp. 166.

The names of Gallaudet and Hooker, are alone a sufficient guarantee to the public, of a work of intrinsic merit; and without even a glance at the pages of a spelling book coming from their hands, we should run no hazard in commending it to the use of any primary school. Still, they will not thank us so much for any recommendation of this kind, as even for fair and manly criticism, if it were deserved, and we were prepared to make it. And it is our wish to say distinctly, that after a somewhat patient and lengthened examination of this book, it seems to us admirably contrived to aid the efforts of the teacher, and facilitate the progress of the learner. Its prominent features are fairly stated by the authors. 1. It embraces a copious stock of words in common use, and omits those that are obsolete and unusual. 2. It so classifies these words

as to meet the prominent difficulties in the orthography and pronunciation of our language. 3. It impresses on the mind of the learner the principal anomalies of our orthography. 4. It adopts a methodical arrangement of the more difficult words, in order to fix in the mind their correct spelling. 5. It aims at keeping up the attention and interest of the learner, and testing his accuracy. 6. Reading lessons are introduced in a very early part of the book, as easy as they need be, and combining interest with moral instruction. Small illustrative cuts are also given with these lessons. The more attention we have paid to this book of "rudiments," the more have we been pleased with it, especially its most prominent feature—the teaching of orthography, or spelling. Nothing that we have seen compares with it, in this matter. Our sympathies always have been, and still are, with the good old "Webster's spelling book"—but it has been well ruined by the miserable typographical execution of some of its editions; and if it must be superseded by any other, we know not a better than the well adapted and beautifully printed "Practical Spelling Book."

A SCRIPTURE MANUAL, containing four hundred and thirty-five questions on theological and moral subjects, alphabetically arranged, designed to facilitate the finding of proof texts. By Charles Simmons. Boston: Crocker & Brewster. Providence: Isaac Wilcox. Utica: G. Tracy. New York: Anti-Slavery Office. 1830. 240, 12mo.

The preparation of this volume is a good work for Zion, for which the author will not lose his reward. For the minister, whose whole study is, or ought to be, the interpretation of the word of God, it will not supersede "Gaston's collection," or some equally copious digest of the Scriptures, under appropriate heads of doctrine or duty; nor for the private Christian, will it supersede the comparing of Scripture with Scripture, as he has been accustomed to do, if faithful to his high privilege. But it will form a valuable assistant, to those who have not the means of procuring larger works of the same kind. The man who studies the Bible with a view to use it as the "sword of the Spirit," in defeating error, and confirming the minds of men in the truth, will find it an important auxiliary. Here, he may more easily fill his quiver with sharp arrows, than by turning over the pages of the Bible to hunt them for himself; but whether the labor thus saved, will finally turn to his account, may still be a question. We are not quite sure on this point. If he will use the "Manual," simply as a help to the study of the Scriptures, and not as a substitute for study, he will no doubt be much benefited by it.

One thing is certain—the low price of the book, (50 or 62 1-2 cents) evinces it to be no money making concern. It must have cost considerable labor in the preparation; and yet the sale of the whole edition can do little more than defray the expense of printing and sale. It is certainly worth more than its cost to the purchaser, allowing that it has no higher value than books in general of the same size. But such an allowance cannot fairly be made. It is worthy of a place in every Christian library, and will be found on trial, we have no doubt, a valued *rade mecum*, by all who wish to be well armed in defence of the great truths of religion.

In regard to the pertinency of some passages, quoted in answer to questions stated, there will of course be differences of opinion. All men do not see alike. The rules of biblical interpretation are not by all men equally well understood—nor by any men, perfectly. Any serious objection to the volume on this ground, therefore, will not hold. The author has his opinions. They are here seen. Other men have different opinions, and will consider his quotations as inapposite. Still, biblical investigation is promoted, inquiry is encouraged—and the cause of truth is advanced. Success to the "Scripture Manual."

BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Baptist Missionary Magazine for December, contains brief notices of the Missions in Siam, and among the OTTAWA Indians.

Siam.—Native craft.—A man professing himself one of the king's soldiers, brought a feline request from Chau Fa, that some of the missionaries might repair to his palace, to meet thirty Englishmen. The statement appeared suspicious; he was taken however in a boat to Chau Fa's, where he confessed himself in league with forty men, some of them in the employ of the mission, whose design it was to plunder the houses of the missionaries. He received chastisement for his imposition, and was left in irons.

A Good Example.—A Chinese in the habit of attending the family worship of the mission, brought one evening a number of his friends to hear the word of God explained. The missionaries were absent. Instead of disappointing his associates, by returning without witnessing the worship of God, he read a chapter in the Bible, and tried to explain it himself, then engaged in prayer, and sang a hymn. Some of the domestics of the family were present, and one of the members of the church.

A Monthly Concert.—March 1.—Forty were present at worship in the chapel in the morning, and the little room in the bazaar was filled. An account of the recent revivals in America was given, and the native brethren in their prayers particularly remembered the converts; and their own countrymen, the Chinese, now threatened by the English; and the missionary societies, straitened for want of means to carry into effect their benevolent designs. Appropriate topics of supplication.

An Old Disciple.—Pe Chun (father Chun) is becoming infirm and childish, being more than 80 years old;—he resides more than a mile and a half from the chapel, and invariably walks to meeting, and was but once absent for many months.

Chinese prayer and hymn-book.—It contains 32 hymns, and six forms of prayer, including the Lord's prayer. The hymns were mostly written by one of the native members of the church. Some of the prayers were his own composition, and the others were put into the Chinese idiom by his assistance.

Religious Assemblies.—Sometimes as many as 20 Chinese assemble for worship in addition to the members of the school. Seven of them are members of the church, and five others are in the employment of the missionaries. One or two others afford some evidence of piety. Some are making encouraging progress in Christian knowledge.—but others, through the hardness of their hearts yield not to the truth.

Printing department.—The usual number of men employed in this department is diminished one fourth, in the hope that by this retrenchment, aid may be furnished toward sending out candidates for the missionary work, who are now detained in America for want of funds. It is not that the mission has less confidence in the value of tracts and books, but that they have more confidence in oral instruction.—they forego the advantage of an increase of tracts, for the greater advantage of an increase of living teachers.

AYUTHA. This is the ancient capital of Siam. It is a little more now, than a vast mass of ruins of ancient temples, and crumbling walls, which

once enclosed millions of worshippers, groping then as now, in the gloom of superstition, and under the curse of God! Where are those multitudes! Liberal distributions of Siamese tracts and Chinese books have been made.

PURA BAT.—50 or 60 miles higher up the Meru than Ayuthia, the place of yearly resort for multitudes of the worshippers of Buddha. The temple is situated on a high eminence of rock, and the floor 14 by 20 feet is overlaid with plates of silver, about a foot square, soldered together. In the centre, was the pretended impression of the foot of Gaudama, three feet long, one and a half broad—half a foot below the level of the floor. This was enclosed by a little wall of plaster, about a foot high.

OTTAWA, in Michigan. The Ottawa colony consists of 26 families, or more than 100 souls. Their attention has been much turned to agriculture, and some of them have followed mechanical pursuits for a livelihood. They dwell in comfortable log-houses, and are anxious to possess cows and sheep.

Mr. and Mrs. Slater, teachers. Mr. N. Patterson is farmer. The number of children on the list is 25, all except four of pure Indian blood. One young man of promise, entered the last quarter, who came over fifty miles, expressly to attend the school.

Meetings are held and well attended, every other day of the week for divine instruction. Many of the unconverted speak with interest on the subject of religion—but they know not the plague of their hearts. Few become Christians.

A Temperance society has been organized and 58 have signed the pledge. Three have died happily—two, adult members of the church, and the other, a youth. The moral strength of the colony is thus weakened. But the Lord is able to raise up others, who shall in like manner adorn their profession by a godly life.

SOUTHERN CONVENTION.

Pursuant to a call numerously signed, 16 ministers and 12 laymen, representatives of several southern and southwestern Presbyteries, met in Convention at Cassville, Geo., Oct. 25, 1840. Rev. Robert Hardin, D. D. was chosen President, and Rev. T. Magruder, Secretary. The business of the Convention was first, to attend to communications addressed to them;—second, to receive a statement of the violations of the constitution, during the progress of the (so called) Reform; third, to consider the present and prospective relations of Constitutional Presbyterianism; fourth, to discuss the propriety of establishing a literary and theological institution; fifth, to consider the importance of a religious newspaper and the best means of sustaining and circulating the same; sixth, to ascertain the numerical strength of Constitutional Presbyterianism in the southern and southwestern States; seventh, to devise effectual means for supplying destitute churches. Committees were appointed on these several subjects. Nothing is distinctly said in this plan of business, on the subject of slavery; resolutions however were introduced by a clerical member, and referred to a special committee; their report approves the course adopted by the last Constitutional Assembly, and expresses the hope, that the same body, at their next session, will take such order on the subject, as to "remove a serious obstacle to an entire union of Constitutional Presbyterians throughout this land." A subject this, not to be at once disposed of. Both branches of the Presbyterian church will yet be torn in twain by this "vexed question," in despite of any policy they may adopt, unless the southern churches shall obey the voice of God, and "render to their servants that which is just and equal."

It appears from a report of one of the committees that the number of Constitutional ministers, so far as can be ascertained, in the south and southwest, is 105; licentiates and candidates 18; churches 101. Elders 404. Perfect accuracy is not claimed. The report of proceedings, in the Christian Observer, from which we abstract the above facts, is not yet published in full—we hope to add further results of the Convention next week.

NEWARK COLLEGE, DEL.—The Trustees of this Institution have accepted the propositions of the President Elect—Rev. E. W. Gilbert; viz. to take immediate measures to get rid of the lottery; and to fill all future vacancies in the Board with Constitutional Presbyterians, till these shall constitute a majority of the Board. They have already filled the only existing vacancy, by the unanimous election of Rev. John L. Grant, of Philadelphia. Prospects are highly encouraging, for the growth of an evangelical and liberal literary institution in the bosom of "Little Delaware."

IS YOUR PASTOR DISAPPOINTED?

When he first found your name on the church record it is not unlikely he said, within himself, "I shall be well sustained by that disciple." Perhaps years have since fled, and may be each of them has brought him the disappointment of hope? He hoped to have seen you a strong man armed in the service of God. Has he been compelled to make the painful record of your spiritual weakness? He thought you would stand by him the kind counsellor, the prompt and efficient agent of his *starding* plans, and of doing good. Has he learned upon a broken reed? The first months of his acquaintance with you were pleasant, as piety seemed strong and growing stronger, and he gloried in the hope that you were rising more and more toward the stature of a perfect man in Christ Jesus. Has he had the pain of seeing the bright star grow dim, vigorous faith become weaker, and active piety dwindle to mere negative goodness? Has he had occasion with sadness to exclaim, "He did run well, who hath hindered him?"

Is the Pastor disappointed in your Christian character? Press this question upon your conscience. It is a sore evil for you to have grieved the heart, weakened the hand, and disappointed the hopes of that affectionate friend of your soul. Beware that death and the judgment do not show it to be unprofitable for you!

THE ROMAN CATHOLICS OF NEW YORK. The city of New York, it is supposed that there are eighty thousand Roman Catholics, who may be regarded as permanent residents. Confiding in their supposed strength, they already regard themselves as a powerful political party, and that for view and from the exclusive and ambitious nature of their religion, it may be presumed they will always be found to side politically with the party which promises most for their ecclesiastical advancement. Other denominations, powerful as they may be, will always be divided on politics, and that for the simple reason, that they have no ambitious desire to render the state subservient to their establishment. In this way the government has nothing to fear from Protestantism. But it is different with popery. It aims at the subjugation of the civil government. Its object is power. It is exclusive. It keeps far aloof from all other religious denominations; and entertains not for them the slightest charity.

A recent instance of its peculiar spirit should not pass without notice. We refer to the application by the Roman Catholics of the city of New York, still

pending, for a share in the school fund appropriated by the State. That they should have an equal right to the benefits of such a fund, no one can dispute; but the question is, whether they can have some terms with other denominations. This fund is a general one, designed to confer the benefits of education on all alike, in the public institutions. No religious denomination is known, which shows no religious sentiment. A plan, however, by which this fund is to be divided among the different religious denominations, does not suit the genius of the professor. No religious faith, and they are now actually making application to the City Councils to have a share in the fund, which they claim to be exclusively devoted to the establishment and support of Roman Catholic schools. Peculiar favor is shown them—the authorities of the City and State, are to make a particular recognition of popery—the taxes of the people are to be devoted to the support of the system, which we have always been expected that it would soon, and surely, have betrayed itself. It may however, be useful to the country, should popery rule in the ascendant in this country. In the mean time, we have little doubt that the New York City Council will be so much influenced by the spirit of the system, as to establish a system, for that should be regarded as the religion of the State, which enjoys peculiar and exclusive privileges.—*Presbyterian.*

REVIVALS.

MAINE.—A letter to the Editor of the Portland Mirror under date *Calais*, Nov. 25, 1840, says:

The first appearance of the Revival was soon after the commencement of the year, and it continued with more or less power for about four months. The Congregational, Baptist and Methodist churches have each shared in the divine influence. The precise number of hopeful converts is not known, but not far from 1000 have united with the churches;—and several, I do not know how many, St. Stevens on the English side of the river, and separates us from the British Provinces. The Revival throughout this County, has been one of great power and precious results. As nearly as I can ascertain, over 400 have united with the Congregational churches, besides those who have united with the Baptists and Methodists. And among those who have thus added numerical strength to their churches, it may be said generally that they have increased also their spiritual power. The churches have been more edified, and walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit have been multiplied.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Lutheran Observer, published at Baltimore, gives information of a revival in Pikesville Church, Chester county, Pa., in which about seventy are supposed by the writer to have been the subjects of grace.

NEW YORK.—We are informed that a revival of religion, of considerable power, and happy influence, is now in progress at Millville, Chemung Co., N. Y.

ROME, N. Y.—From the Rome Sentinel, we learn that the meeting noticed last week, still continues, and with increasing interest. Very large congregations are in attendance every day and evening. From the deep solemnity which appears to pervade the minds of the people, we may safely conclude that the spirit of the Lord is moving upon the minds of this people in a manner very unusual; many during the last week we understand have openly exposed the cause of religion, who have hitherto cared for none of these things.

CANADA.—The Canada Baptist Magazine, states that there is a revival in progress, at Beckwith, U. C. The Baptist church at Montserrat, Pa., has recently enjoyed a season of special religiousness.

A new Protestant church has been opened at Paris, and is to be occupied by Rev. Mark Wilks, U. C. The Baptist church at Montserrat, Pa., has recently enjoyed a season of special religiousness.

DO THE DUTY THAT LIES NEAREST.

"Do the duty that lies nearest thee; thy sacred duty will already have been cleared." This maxim is worth volumes to all who are in dark and troubled in relation to their spiritual state. It is the key which unlocks mysteries, and opens the prison doors. I mean of course, that of which which is prompted by the Spirit of God to answer to fervent prayer. Do and thou shalt know. "If any man will do his will, he shall shall know the doctrine." A Keupis very truly says, "instead of indulging anxious inquiries into the future condition of our soul, we should apply ourselves wholly to the duty which is nearest to us, and to the will of God." If we doubt whether we truly love God, let us now obey him, and our doubts will vanish. "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me."

Have you thought that the path of duty often appears dark to us, simply because it lies so very near? We are looking a great way off. We want to do some great thing. We are too proud; hence, the most unobtrusive class of duties which are eminently fitted to humility and meekness are apt to be overlooked. We want to do some great thing, and we marvel that our way is hedged up. And yet, perhaps, the neglect of some duty so very near is that we have hardly noticed it, is the cause of all the trouble.

Peradventure we have said something unwisely against the reputation of another, or perhaps have thrown out a hasty word which may have prejudiced some one against the truth; or perhaps are indulging a wrong spirit toward some member of our family or community, in which we have not yet plainly our duty to retract the uncharitable position; perhaps to ask pardon of some individual for an offence known only to him and ourselves. But, though a little thing to do, though the way is very plain, it goes against pride and self-esteem so much, that we have not the heart to do it. We are too proud to do it. We want to do some great thing, and we marvel that our way is hedged up. And yet, perhaps, the neglect of some duty so very near is that we have hardly noticed it, is the cause of all the trouble.

Peradventure we have said something unwisely against the reputation of another, or perhaps have thrown out a hasty word which may have prejudiced some one against the truth; or perhaps are indulging a wrong spirit toward some member of our family or community, in which we have not yet plainly our duty to retract the uncharitable position; perhaps to ask pardon of some individual for an offence known only to him and ourselves. But, though a little thing to do, though the way is very plain, it goes against pride and self-esteem so much, that we have not the heart to do it. We are too proud to do it. We want to do some great thing, and we marvel that our way is hedged up. And yet, perhaps, the neglect of some duty so very near is that we have hardly noticed it, is the cause of all the trouble.

Peradventure we have said something unwisely against the reputation of another, or perhaps have thrown out a hasty word which may have prejudiced some one against the truth; or perhaps are indulging a wrong spirit toward some member of our family or community, in which we have not yet plainly our duty to retract the uncharitable position; perhaps to ask pardon of some individual for an offence known only to him and ourselves. But, though a little thing to do, though the way is very plain, it goes against pride and self-esteem so much, that we have not the heart to do it. We are too proud to do it. We want to do some great thing, and we marvel that our way is hedged up. And yet, perhaps, the neglect of some duty so very near is that we have hardly noticed it, is the cause of all the trouble.

Peradventure we have said something unwisely against the reputation of another, or perhaps have thrown out a hasty word which may have prejudiced some one against the truth; or perhaps are indulging a wrong spirit toward some member of our family or community, in which we have not yet plainly our duty to retract the uncharitable position; perhaps to ask pardon of some individual for an offence known only to him and ourselves. But, though a little thing to do, though the way is very plain

on reasonable terms. 4w. Dec. 18.

For the Boston Recorder.

HOLLISTON, DEC. 1, 1840.

•

